

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 DHA-02 /072 W  
-----002698 110827Z /20

R 081200Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3107  
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BUCHREST  
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMCONSULATE MUNICH  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY SOFIA  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
AMEMBASSY WARSAW  
USMISSION NATO  
USMISSION USUN

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E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: PINT, CSCE, SHUM, CZ  
SUBJECT: CHARTER 77 AFTER SIX MONTHS

REF PRAGUE 1623  
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1. SUMMARY: AS CHARTER 77 ENTERS ITS SEVENTH MONTH, IT IS BATTERED  
BUT STILL ALIVE. MOST VISIBLE ACTIVITY IS NOW BY EXILED ADHERENTS,  
BUT MOVEMENT CLAIMS SLOW GROWTH IN NUMBER OF SUPPORTERS. END  
SUMMARY.

2. THE MOST VISIBLE CURRENT ACTIVITY OF CHARTER 77 AS IT ENDS A

HALF YEAR OF EXISTENCE IS BEING CARRIED OUT IN VIENNA AND ESLEWHERE IN WESTERN EUROPE BY ZDENEK MLYNAR, WHOSE NUMEROUS STATEMENTS AND INTERVIEWS ARE BEING PICKED UP BY FBIS. LOCAL MEDIA IGNORED MLYNAR IN EXILE FOR SEVERAL WEEKS, PERHAPS HOPING TO MAKE HIM A NON-PERSON, BUT RESUMED PERSONAL ATTACKS ON HIM JULY 7.

3. CHARTER ADHERENTS CONTINUE TO CLAIM THAT MORE SIGNATURES ARE BEING COLLECTED, WITH NUMBER NOW BETWEEN 700 AND 800. WE HAVE HEARD THAT THIRD LIST OF SIGNERS HAS BEEN ISSUED AND THAT CHARTER DOCUMENT NO. 12 COMPLETED BUT HAVE NOT YET OBTAINED COPIES. DOCUMENTS SEEM HARDER TO OBTAIN THAN PREVIOUSLY, POSSIBLY DUE EITHER TO GREATER CAUTION ON PART OF CHARTISTS OR DEFECTIONS AMONG SAMIZDAT TYPISTS IN FACE OF REGIME PRESSURES.

4. THE CHARTER DOCUMENT DESCRIBED IN REFTTEL MENTIONS AT LEAST TWO SLOVAKS WHO LOST THEIR JOBS FOR SUPPORTING THE CHARTER AND WHO RECENTLY TALKED IN BRATISLAVA WITH VISITING CANADIAN

ON CZECHOSLOVAK POLITICS. PHILOSOPHER MIROSLAV KUSY, HEAD OF IDEOLOGICAL SECTION OF SLOVAK PARTY IN 1968-69, SAID HE SIGNED CHARTER (ON SECOND LIST) AS MATTER OF CONSCIENCE AND TO ENCOURAGE OTHER SLOVAK INTELLECTUALS TO DO SO. WRITER HANA PONICKA, ALTHOUGH HER LATEST BOOK WAS BEING PUBLISHED AND HER SCENARIO BEING FILMED, SUPPORTED CHARTER PRINCIPLES DURING SLOVAK WRITERS UNION CONGRESS THIS SPRING. SHE WAS EXPELLED FROM THE UNION. PUBLICATION OF THE BOOK AND SHOOTING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF THE FILM WERE HALTED.

5. ACCORDING TO THE CANADIAN, KUSY SAID THERE WAS LITTLE APPARENT INTEREST IN THE CHARTER AMONG SLOVAK INTELLECTUALS. AMONG FORMER PARTY MEMBERS HE THOUGHT PART OF THE REASON FOR THIS APATHY MAY BE THAT FORMER DUBCEK SUPPORTERS WERE BETTER TREATED IN SLOVAKIA THAN IN THE CZECH LANDS AND HAD RECEIVED DECENT JOBS WHICH THEY DID NOT WANT TO LOSE.

6. COMMENT: CHARTER 77 IS NOT DEAD BUT ITS VITAL SIGNS ARE NOT EASY TO DETECT. THE CANADIAN MENTIONED ABOVE SUGGESTED THAT IT STILL HAS A CHANCE OF GAINING MORE SUPPORT NOT AS A POLITICAL MOVEMENT BUT AS A MORAL PROTEST AGAINST THE CORRUPTION THAT PERVADES THIS SOCIETY. AT THIS POINT WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO SHARE HIS VISION.

7. THE BIG PROPAGANDA ARTILLERY OF THE REGIME HAS BEEN TURNED AWAY FROM CHARTER 77 TO DEAL WITH ISSUES SUCH AS HUMAN RIGHTS AND EUROCOMMUNISM, BUT THE HANDLING OF THOSE ISSUES SERVES THE PURPOSE OF WARNING DISSIDENTS TO KEEP THEIR HEADS DOWN. END COMMENT.  
MONTGOMERY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, HUMAN RIGHTS, CHARTER 77, POLITICAL SITUATION  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** PINT, SHUM, CZ, CSCE  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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